



# THE OPEN DOOR

First Baptist Church  
414 Pecan Avenue  
Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350  
601-656-1507

*"To the angel of the church of Philadelphia write...behold I have before thee a door having been open, which no one is able to close." Revelation 3:7-8*

**Volume 65**

**May 7, 2025**

**Number 67**



Happy  
*Mother's*  
Day

Sunday, May 11  
We will celebrate our mothers  
during the worship service.



**Parent  
Child  
Dedication**

**SUNDAY, MAY 11**  
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE





Church Family,

The 175th celebration was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who helped with the celebration. I know the team spent a lot of time organizing and preparing for this celebration. I thoroughly enjoyed looking at the pictures and articles on display outside the offices. Everyone who decorated and prepared the food also did a wonderful job. The courtyard and decor in the CLC looked great! The pictures displayed on the tables in the CLC were among my favorite parts of the celebration. It was encouraging to see how God has worked over the decades at FBC.

God has truly been *Faithful Through the Ages*. From 1850 until now, our church has been a gospel presence in our community. As long as God has us here, let us continually be unified as a body of believers who desire to know Him and to make Him known. As Dr. Parker said, let us be a church where grace is great, truth is treasured, and the mission is maximized. When we celebrate our 200th anniversary in 2050, I wonder what stories we will tell. I am looking forward to seeing how God uses FBC in the years to come!

In Christ,  
Evan

## OPPORTUNITIES

### **PRESCHOOL EXTENDED SESSION**

May 11

Younger: Brenda Barnett & Teresa Hight  
Older: Ken & Patti Robey

May 18

Younger: Josh & Mamie Thompson  
Older: Gayle Belenchia & Gail Turner

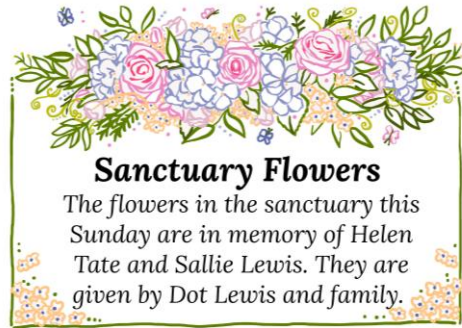
### **DEACON OF THE WEEK**

May 11

11 am Service – Alain Kaboré

May 18

11 am Service – Ryan McKay



**ANNUAL CPC MOTHER'S DAY FUNDRAISER**  
CPC OF PHILADELPHIA, MS PREGNANCY & FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

**THURSDAY, MAY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 5-8 PM**

**DINING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**SPONSORING RESTAURANTS:**  
BLOOMO DINER, CITY LIMITS, MCALISTER'S DELI,  
TOOTIE'S, RONNIE'S STEAK & GRILL

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: (601) 656-9712  
MAKING A DIFFERENCE SINCE 1993

### *Welcome New Members*

#### **BY LETTER**

Ethan & Taylor Jenkins  
10891 Road 781  
Philadelphia, MS 39350  
601-663-8441 (Ethan) | 601-480-8691 (Taylor)

*Together*  
with their families

**Courtney Smith**  
*and*  
**Riley Nolan**

Request the pleasure of your company  
at the celebration of their marriage  
May 17, 2025 at 3:00 pm

*First Baptist Church*  
414 Pecan Avenue  
Philadelphia, MS 39350  
Reception to follow

**FAMILY NIGHT**

Worship  
Bible Study  
Fun Activity

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14**  
6 PM IN THE CLC

### *Thank You!*

To all of our church family that helped make the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration such a big success, THANK YOU! An event like this doesn't just happen without the body of Christ. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this celebration. We are a blessed church and looking forward to following God's direction in the next 175 years.

175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Team

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

SERVED 4:45-5:45 PM



## MENU FOR MAY 14

Smorgasboard

A lil' bit of this and a lil' bit of that.

**Servers:** Laura Thrash, Carol Kilpatrick

**Cleanup:** Beth Henson, Gayle Belenchia

**Money Table:** Nancy Williams

**ATTENTION!!  
LAST SUPPER UNTIL AUGUST.**



## Graduate Recognition Service

May 18, 2025

If you have a senior who will be graduating from high school in May and would like to participate in our Graduate Recognition Service, please let us know in the church office. The DEADLINE to get your name on the list is May 12. The Senior Breakfast will be on Sunday, May 18, at 8:30 am and the Recognition Service will be held during the worship service at 11:00 am.

### COLLEGE GRADUATES

Our college graduates will be recognized in the worship service on May 18. If you are graduating from college, please call the church office by May 12 in order for your name to be listed in the Open Door.



What a wonderful day in the Lord Sunday! Our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration was truly a success. I mentioned at the start of the service how I felt a little nervous. I was being completely honest. We had three former ministers of music join us, Mickey Gentry, Tony Kinton, and Mark Manning. These three men helped establish many of the ministries that God has allowed me to build on all these years. They trained some of our best choir members and most faithful instrumentalists. I owe them a debt of gratitude.

As far back as anyone can remember, Baptists have loved to sing. Some people even refer to gospel hymns as the Baptist songs, which is not really accurate. Believe it or not, most of the songs we love to sing, especially the hymns, were written by members of other denominations. Most of our favorite writers like George Bennard, Ira Sanky, Philip Bliss, and Fanny Crosby were not Baptist. There is one big exception. B. B. McKinney, the author of "Have Faith in God" and a host of other songs, was unashamedly Southern Baptist through and through. In fact, he was so well known as a Baptist hymn writer and music leader, some referred to him as "Mr. Southern Baptist Church Music." Speaking of owing gratitude, every Baptist music minister and worship leader owes one to this man. He not only wrote hymns, he also taught music for many years at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and compiled the first SBC hymnal, "The Broadman Hymnal (1940). I hope many will join us Sunday when we sing a prayer he wrote for Christian Home Week in 1950, "God, Give Us Christian Homes".

Shouting for Joy!

William W. Smith

<http://www.fbcphilly.com>



## MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 26

*Remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.*

THE CHURCH OFFICE, CLC & CMC WILL BE CLOSED.



**VBS VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED IN ALL AREAS!!**

If you would like to volunteer please see Mrs. Jackie.

## WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

### SUNDAY, MAY 11

Deacons Meeting .....	8:30 a.m.
Media Center.....	9:15 a.m.
Special Time of Prayer.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School .....	9:45 a.m.
Parent/Child Dedication.....	11:00 a.m.
Small Groups .....	5:00 p.m.

### MONDAY, MAY 12

Revive Us Again Exercise Class.....	8:30 a.m.
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### WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Revive Us Again Exercise Class.....	8:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Supper .....	4:45-5:45 p.m.
Media Center.....	5:30 p.m.
Family Night (CLC).....	6:00 p.m.

### SATURDAY, 17

Wedding (Courtney Smith/Riley Nolan) .....	3:00 p.m.
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### SUNDAY, MAY 18

Graduate Breakfast .....	8:30 a.m.
CMC Team Meeting .....	8:30 a.m.
Media Center.....	9:15 a.m.
Special Time of Prayer.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School .....	9:45 a.m.
Graduate Recognition Service .....	11:00 a.m.
Small Group Picnic .....	5:00 p.m.

**CLC HOURS MONDAY – FRIDAY 7 AM – 12 NOON**

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Evan Humphries .....	Pastor
William Smith.....	Minister of Music
Austin Aultman.....	Minister of Students
Jackie Cheatham .....	Minister of Children
Laura Thrash.....	Financial Ministry Assistant
Tiffany Loper .....	Education Ministry Assistant
Tiffany Long.....	Child Ministry Center Director
Linda Griffis .....	Christian Life Center Director
Michael Duke.....	Upward Director
Church Office .....	(601)656-1507
Fax .....	(601)656-3664
Church Email .....	fbphilly@netdoor.com
Church Website.....	www.fbcphilly.com
Kindergarten/Child Care.....	(601)656-5015

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

### May 4, 2025

Budget .....	\$24,520.32
Wednesday Night Supper.....	\$496.00
Ruth's Promise .....	\$200.00
Office Refund.....	\$14.00
Youth Camp .....	\$65.00
Renovate.....	\$200.00
Benevolence .....	\$25.00
Disaster Relief.....	\$10.00
Harvest Church.....	\$550.00
Music Designated.....	\$10.00
Child Ministries.....	\$200.00
Children's Ministry .....	\$200.00
Lottie Moon.....	\$10.00
Annie Armstrong.....	\$10.00
State Missions .....	\$10.00
Budget Offering Given to Date .....	\$845,827.47
Over Budget .....	\$84,114.71

<b>WEEKLY BUDGET REQUIREMENT:</b>	<b>\$21,408.68</b>
<b>BUDGET AMT. RECEIVED 05/04/25:</b>	<b>\$24,520.32</b>

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

### May 4, 2025

Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	35	20
Children	31	21
Youth	25	11
Adults	271	117
Total	362	169

